

USSN: 10/760,326
Response to Office Action Dated 10/24/2006

MAR 20 2007

REMARKS

Claims 1-30 are currently before the Examiner. Claims 1-3, 10-13 and 16 are indicated as allowable. Claims 4, 6-7, 17, 20-21, and 23-26 have been amended. Claims 22-25 have been cancelled herein.

Page 5, last line; the spelling of the word "montmorillonites" stand objected to for misspelling. The objection is respectfully traversed.

Applicants have made the appropriate changes to the spelling of the word "montmorillonites" as indicated in the Amendments to the Specification. Reconsideration of this objection is respectfully requested.

Claim 22 stands objected under 37 U.S.C. § 175 as being a substantial duplicate of claim 1. This objection is respectfully traversed.

Applicants have cancelled claim 22. Reconsideration of this objection is respectfully requested.

Claims 23-25 stand objected under 37 U.S.C. § 175(c) as being of improper dependent form. This objection is respectfully traversed.

Applicants have cancelled claims 23-25. Reconsideration of this objection is respectfully requested.

Claims 4, 17, 20, 21, 26 and 27 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112 1st paragraph, for not reasonably providing enablement for the reaction. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

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Claim 4 as amended merely provides the upper amount of the % by weight of the diene, the dienophile, and the rosin acid that comprise the reaction mixture. As written in claim 1, diene and dienophile do have to be present in the currently written reaction.

Claims 4, 6, 7, 17, 20, and 26 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112 2nd paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicants regard as the invention. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Applicants have amended the claims to ensure "up to about" and "below about" are no longer in the claims. Applicants believe that no new matter has been added with this amendment. Reconsideration of this rejection is respectfully requested.

Claims 17, 20, 21, 26, and 27 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as anticipated or, in the alternative, under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as obvious over Reichold Chemicals Inc. EP 300 624. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

The office action states that since none of the rejected claims are claiming the presence of a disproportionation agent or a disproportionated rosin acid, the rejection is maintained.

Applicants have amended claims 17, 20, 21, 26, and 27 to include the presence of a disproportionation agent. Applicants believe that no new matter has been added with this amendment. Reconsideration of this rejection is respectfully requested

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In light of the above, it is respectfully submitted that the currently pending claims of the present application are in condition for allowance. If it would be of any assistance with this application, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,



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Representative under 37 CFR 1.34(a)

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